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(c) whether the District Collector, North Arcot, has directed that these lands should not be assigned to caste Hindus and that the Sub-Collector should consult one Rev. Blaess in the matter of assigning these lands;

(d) whether there is any order of Government that lands available for assignment in the North Arcot district should be assigned to European padres or their congregations; and

(e) whether Government will, with reference to the Proceedings of the Collector of North Arcot, dated 29th October 1927, D. Dis. 7490/27, place the concerned papers on the table of this House and stop the execution of the Collector's Proceedings in the matter in the meantime?

A.—(a) The extent of the disafforested area in Pallalakuppam is 462·86 acres, of which an extent of 206·34 acres has been transferred to ayan.

(b) The original intention was to assign the lands for an Adi-Dravida settlement.

(c) The Collector did not direct that the land should not be assigned to caste Hindus. The Sub-Collector was asked to report in consultation with Mr. Blaess whether any portion of the lands could be set apart for caste Hindus. The reason why it was thought desirable to consult Mr. Blaess was that it was at his instance that the scheme had been started.

(d) No.

(e) A copy of G.O.[a] Mis. No. 1816, Development, dated 18th December 1925, is laid on the table. The Government see no cause for intervention.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"I want to know if the Government cared to ascertain whether the whole area of 260 acres was really necessary for the colony proposed by the Rev. Mr. Blaess."

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"I cannot conceive a colony with much lesser area, Sir."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"What is the number of people proposed to be settled in the colony?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"Has any portion of the land been assigned to the caste Hindus?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"Notice, Sir."

Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks

Proposed shifting of the Nuzvid Divisional office.

*999 *Q.*—Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government intend to shift the Nuzvid Divisional office from Bezwada (Kistna district) to any other place in the division;

(b) what will be the taluks to be included in the Nuzvid division;

(c) whether any site has been acquired in Nuzvid for constructing the Divisional office; if so, at what cost;

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 126 infra.

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(d) whether plans and estimates have been passed or prepared;

(e) whether the Government are aware that Nuzvid is in one corner of the division and that Gannavaram is much more central and easily accessible to all parts of the division; and

(f) whether Government have received any representations that it should be located at Gannavaram?

A.—(a) Yes. The decision to make Nuzvid the headquarters of the division was taken long ago.

(b) The Nuzvid division consists of the Gannavaram taluk and the Nuzvid (Independent) Deputy Tahsildar's division.

(c) A draft notification and a draft declaration have been published for the acquisition of a site in Nuzvid for the construction of a Revenue Divisional office. The acquisition proceedings have not yet been completed.

(d) Plans and estimates have been approved by the Government.

(e) The Government have considered the merits of Nuzvid and Gannavaram as divisional headquarters and have found that the balance of advantage is in favour of Nuzvid.

(f) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"With reference to clause (e), may I know what the merits of Nuzvid as against Gannavaram are?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"Nuzvid, the Government consider, is a more important place, the headquarters of the proprietors of that area. Gannavaram is not so well situated and is a mere village."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether the existence of big zamindars is a good point in its favour?"

The hon Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"I think so, Sir."

Floods

Villages affected by the recent floods in the Vizagapatam district.

1000-A Q.—Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the villages in the Vizagapatam district that were seriously affected by the recent floods;

(b) the extent of loss of life and property under the following heads: (1) persons drowned, (2) cattle perished, (3) houses collapsed, (4) crops and other property destroyed, and (5) lands silted or scoured; and

(c) the relief the Government propose to afford to those sufferers?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 730-A.

(b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to the report of the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 7th November 1928, and the Government orders on the subject which have been placed on the table [a] of the House.

[a] Laid on the table on 26th November 1928.